

To: Monschein, Eric[Monschein.Eric@epa.gov]
Cc: Croxton, Dave[Croxton.David@epa.gov]
From: Keating, Jim
Sent: Mon 8/26/2013 8:47:45 PM
Subject: Introductory remarks for Pend Oreille meeting

Eric,

As we discussed, here is my starting point for an opening expression of HQ involvement. Please feel free to work with this and run past Tom for his feedback and buy off. I'm copying Dave C is the Region for efficiency sake in case he has any input to share:

We at HQ appreciated the opportunity to hear the tribe's concerns and take a look at the TMDL methods and assumptions. After the tribe's initial visit last year, HQ assembled a group with expertise in modeling and WQS interpretation to closely examine the issues.

Tom Wall, who is the Director of the national TMDL program at headquarters, wanted me to express some thoughts we at HQ share about this matter:

- 1) We've taken this issue very seriously, and devoted valuable staff time to discuss the relevant technical, policy, and legal considerations, in the context of our responsibility to both the state and the tribe.
- 2) We place enormous value on bringing all parties to the table to present their issues and concerns. Mutual understanding is the key to crafting effective solutions.
- 3) In collaboration with the Regional office, we really are seeking to identify a constructive path forward toward mutually satisfactory outcome.